Update on Pollinator Protection Efforts

PESTICIDE PROGRAM DIALOGUE COMMITTEE MEETING
May 3, 2017

Office of Pesticide Programs
US Environmental Protection Agency

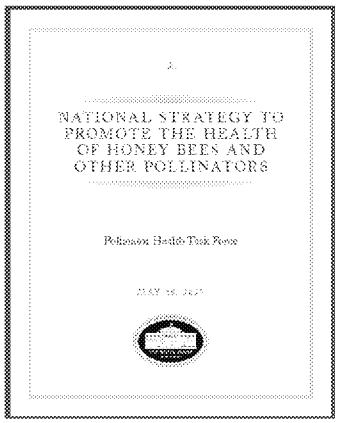
EPA Presentation Outline

- Efforts Consistent with the National Pollinator Health Strategy
- Managed Pollinator Protection Plans (MP3)
- Acute Risk Mitigation Policy
- Status of the Neonicotinoid Re-evaluation

EPA's Efforts Under the National Pollinator Health Strategy

EPA's Efforts Under the National Pollinator Health Strategy

- Assess effects of pesticides on bees & other pollinators
- Expedite registration of new products to control varroa mites
- Encourage pollinator protection and habitat plantings in green infrastructure and Superfund projects, and, enhance pollinator habitat at EPA-owned facilities


NATIONAL STRATEGY TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH OF HONEY BEES AND OTHER POLLINATORS

Pollinator Health Task Force

EPA Assess effects of pesticides

- Continuing efforts to issue a DCI for pollinator data
- Hosted a workshop on Non-*Apis* Bee Exposure
- Continuing to assess new and existing active ingredients utilizing the pollinator risk assessment framework
- Examining potential sources of variability in toxicity of residues on foliage study (OCSPP 850.3030).

Managed Pollinator Protection Plans (MP3s)

EPA Managed Pollinator Protection Plans

- MP3 Symposium held March 2016
  - Sessions focused on: objectives/lessons learned; effectiveness of MP3s; engaging stakeholders; tools for tracking and mapping
  - Majority of states have implemented, are developing or planning to develop an MP3
- Formed workgroup under the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee to provide input on performance metrics
- Continue to support MP3s as means to reduce potential pesticide exposure to bees.
- Will this approach meet the goals of the workgroup or should other approaches be considered?

Acute Risk Mitigation Policy

Acute Risk Mitigation Policy

- Utilizes a quantitative risk approach
  - Liquid/dust formulations
  - Foliar exposure to a crop that may utilize contract pollination
  - Use rate that exceeds the risk quotient > 0.4 (based on contact exposure)

- Flexibility in the Policy:
  - Use of products with short residual toxicity times
  - Applications to crops with extended bloom periods

EPA Acute Risk Mitigation Policy

- FOR FOLIAR APPLICATIONS OF THIS PRODUCT TO A CROP WHERE BEES ARE UNDER CONTRACT TO POLLINATE THAT CROP: Foliar application of this product is prohibited to a crop from **onset of flowering until flowering is complete** when **bees are under contract** for pollination services to that crop unless the application is made to prevent or control a threat to public health and/or animal health as determined by a state, tribal, authorized local health department, or vector control agency.

Acute Risk Mitigation Policy

- Flexibility: Use of products with short residual toxicity times
  - The application can be made with a product with an residual toxicity time less than 6 hours (RT25 $\leq$ 6) when the the application is made in the time between 2 hours prior to sunset but not less than 8 hours prior to sunrise.

- Flexibility: Applications to crops with indeterminate bloom periods
  - The application is being made to an indeterminate blooming crop in the time between 2 hours prior to sunset and sunrise; OR
  - The application is being made to an indeterminate blooming crop at a time when the temperature at the application site is 50°F or less.

EPA Acute Risk Mitigation Policy

- Environmental Hazard Language for Pollinating Insects:

  This product is [moderately/highly] toxic to bees and other pollinating insects exposed to direct treatment or to residues in/on blooming crops or weeds. Protect pollinating insects by following label directions intended to minimize drift and reduce pesticide risk to these organisms.

Status of the Neonicotinoid Re-evaluation

Assessments for the Neonicotinoids

- Imidacloprid
  - A preliminary pollinator-only analysis released January 2016.
  - An aquatic risk assessment has been posted, and will be released for comment.
- Clothianidin and thiamethoxam
  - A preliminary pollinator risk assessment has been posted, and will be released for comment.
- Dinotefuran
  - A Tier 1 pollinator risk assessment has been posted, and will be released for comment.

Preliminary Pollinator Risk Assessments

- Potential on-field risk from some use patterns appear to be low
  - Based on attractiveness and agronomic practices
  - Seed treatment uses
- Potential on-field risk from some use patterns remain uncertain: more data (expected in 2017), and further analysis will reduce these uncertainties.
  - Soil uses
- Potential on-field risk from some use patterns

- EPA intends to engage stakeholders to better inform its understanding of risks and benefits from uses that result in potential risks of concern.

Neonicotinoid Re-evaluation Timeline

- 2017
  - Imidacloprid human health risk assessment
  - Clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran preliminary pollinator assessments
  - Clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran human health risk assessment
  - Clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran draft risk assessment for taxa other than pollinators
- 2018
  - All neonicotinoids: revised pollinator/ecological risk assessments
  - All neonicotinoids: proposed interim registration review decisions
- 2018/2019
  - All neonicotinoids: interim registration review decisions

Questions